



City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor


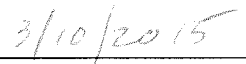
Finance and Administrative Services

Fred Podesta, Director

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CITY CLERK

Applicant: City of Seattle Department of Finance and Administrative Services	Page: 1 of 2	Supersedes: Rule R-6.214.220 effective April 1, 2013
	Publication: 02/25/2015	Effective: 03/18/2015
Director's Rule: CPU-04-2015 Maximum Private Impound Fees	Code and Section Reference: SMC 6.214.220	
	Type of Rule: Code Interpretation	
	Ordinance Authority: SMC 3.02.060	
Approved:  Fred Podesta, Director		
Date  Date		

City of Seattle Tow Company Rules

Rule CPU-04-2015

Maximum Private Impound Fees

1. The maximum private impound fees shall be as specified by SMC 6.214.220 and shall be adjusted by rule, during the first quarter of each calendar year, as follows:
 - (a) **Towing service fee and uncompleted tow fee.** These fees shall be adjusted annually based upon the preceding year's percentage change in the annual Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) Transportation as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics;
 - (b) **Storage fee.** The maximum storage fee that tow companies may charge for storing a private impound vehicle shall be no more than \$30.37 for each 12-hour period that the car remains in storage charged to the nearest half day. The Director shall adjust the maximum storage fee for private property impounds by rule for inflation on an annual basis following publication of the preceding year's percentage change in the annual Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) Transportation, or a successor index thereto, as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, provided that any such adjustment in the storage rate shall not result in a storage rate that exceeds the maximum daily storage rate allowed under RCW 46.55.118(1)(b) .
 - (c) **After hours release fee.** This fee may be adjusted by the Director upon written findings that reasons to do so exist. The Director shall consider the number and frequency of after-hours releases, the effect of the fee on consumers, the costs to tow companies, and any other factors related to after-hours releases.
2. The current maximum private impound fees are shown in the following table:

Fee	Maximum	Comments
Towing service fee	\$186.84 first hour ⁱ	\$133.34 per subsequent hour billed at \$33.34 for each 15 minutes.
Storage fee	\$30.37 per 12-hour period	\$30.37 per subsequent 12-hour period charged to the nearest 12-hour period. (i.e. 1 min-12 hours storage=\$30.37 12 hours 1 min- 24 hours=\$60.74)
Uncompleted tow fee	\$46.71 per 15 minute period	Time computed from time of dispatch of tow vehicle to time of release
After hours release	\$100	For releases outside of normal business hours

ⁱ Towing service fee is a flat hourly rate which includes winching, dolly service, drive line removal, installation of chains on the tow truck, installation of portable lights, vehicle hookup for towing or transporting, tire replacement and standby time [SMC 6.214.220.A.2]. Towing service fee is the only basis for computing charges for private impound towing services other than uncompleted tow, storage, and after-hours release fees [SMC 6.214.220.A.1].



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March 9, 2015,

TO: Fred Podesta

VIA: William Edwards *W Edwards*

From: Laura Beck *L Beck*
License & Standards Inspector, FAS Consumer Protection

Good afternoon Fred,

A public hearing was held on March 6, 2015 to obtain public comment on the attached 3 Director's rules regarding Seattle Police Department and private property impound administrative fees and maximum private impound fees.

These rules were published February 25, 2015. The city did not receive any comments or questions in writing or by e-mail.

The public hearing was attending by three City representatives (Matthew Eng, Craig Leisy and I) and one representative from Lincoln Towing (see attached sign-in sheet). There were no comments on the content of the rules, however, there was a question about how to calculate the storage fees for private impounds. The public was directed to the example in section 2 of rule CPU-04-2015 which addressed their question.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions. If you would have your staff e-mail me (laura.beck@seattle.gov) when these items are complete, I will stop by to pick them up from your office. Thank you.

PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-IN SHEET

Topic:	Administrative Fee for Police Impounds, City Impound Fee, and Maximum Private Property Impound Fees	Date/Time:	3/6/2015, 9:00am
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Date/Time: 3/6/2015, 9:00am

Facilitators: Matthew Eng and Laura Beck	Place/Room: SMT 1600
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Place/Room: SMT 1600

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